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*February 12, 2013*

**To: House Committee on Local Government**  
**Re: House Bill 2072**

The Kansas Organization of Recyclers (KOR), the only statewide recycling and waste reduction association in Kansas, is neutral regarding House Bill 2072. However, we ask the committee to consider and research several factors before making a decision on the legislation.

Our concerns regarding HB 2072 relate to its impact on current and future recycling. KOR's membership includes cities and counties as well as non-profit and private recycling and waste haulers. We work with all recyclers, regardless of their status.

**Strong recycling has important benefits to communities:** reductions in materials headed to landfills; positive economic benefits, including cost reductions and job creation; and a positive environmental impact, including water and soil protection.

We understand the issues this legislation is attempting to address. However, we ask the Committee to examine unintended consequences that could occur before making a final decision:

- **Potential Reduction of Recycling in Kansas**

How will HB 2072 impact Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste Collection programs, many of which are operated by municipalities?

In some areas, the only recycling provided is drop-off bins placed in one municipality and collected by another. This recycling resource is important to a community that has no other recycling outlet. What will be the impact of HB 2072 be on those programs and communities?

Many communities are finding revenue streams and benefits in recycling "non-traditional" materials. These include: batteries, clothing, light bulbs, mattresses, and so on. Non-traditional recycling collections are possible because of established infrastructures in communities and profitable because of volumes collected in traditional recycling. If a municipality's traditional recycling volume decreases, it becomes more difficult to sustain non-traditional programs.

- **Increased fees for the Users of Services**

We suggest the committee examine how HB 2072 will impact recycling service fees in communities which will have to change recycling programs under this legislation and what the long-term impact of user fees will be under this legislation.

The Kansas Organization of Recyclers is a non-profit (501c3), membership based network of representatives from government, industry, non-profit and public entities and individuals that support environmental stewardship through waste reduction, composting, reuse, recycling, and sustainable efforts in Kansas. KOR provides advocacy, information, technical support, networking and educational opportunities in partnership with local, state, regional and national organizations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at any time. Thank you for your attention and consideration of this issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spencer".

**Spencer Duncan**  
*Executive Director*  
*Kansas Organization of Recyclers*